

## ABSTRACT

There is provided an optical pickup device having a small size, a high light utilization efficiency, a high degree of freedom in design, and suitable for mass-production, with a high working precision, including a stem (8), a semiconductor laser (1) arranged on stem (8) and serving as a source of light, a cap (9) covering stem (8), an optically transparent substrate (4) attached on cap (9), a  $\frac{1}{2}$  wave plate (3) attached on optically transparent substrate (4), a beam splitter (2) attached on  $\frac{1}{2}$  wave plate (3), a collimator lens (10) and an objective lens (11) condensing on a magneto-optical recording medium (12) the light output from semiconductor laser (1), and a photodetector (7) arranged on stem (8) to detect light reflected by magneto-optical recording medium (12) and branched by beam splitter (2). Beam splitter (2) is formed of a first member (15) of isotropic optical material and a second member (14) of anisotropic optical material.